

Committee Notes – Joint Meeting

Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID

January 9, 2014

Hollywood & Highland BID Security Office

Attendance: **HED Committee Members Present:** Charlie Colletta, Chairperson; Carol Massie, Galo Medina, and Derrick Malec. **Not Present:** Chad Lewis, Monica Yamada, Frank Stephan. **SVBID Committee Members Present:** Fabio Conti, Anthony Bell, and Elizabeth McDonald. **Not Present:** Fred Rosenthal, Chairperson and Katie Seymour. **Liaisons:** Steve Seyler, Joe Salazar, and Bill Farrar, Andrews International; Captain Zarcone, Captain Palka, LAPD; Lt. Sergio Aloma, Deputy Delbert Moore, Sgt Tomas Rodriguez, LASD; Steve Whiddon, Council District 13; Andre Quintero, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. Staff: Kerry Morrison and Joe Mariani Jr., Hollywood Property Owners Alliance. **Guests:** Mike Arminio, Los Angeles Film School.

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Hollywood Entertainment District Committee Chair Charlie Colletta at 10:05 a.m. Introductions were made as there were several new faces in the room for the new year.
- II. Public Comment: Derrick Malec reported that she has closed down the nightclub Block/Eden. There are no plans to convert to any other use in the foreseeable future.
- III. Meeting Notes: The committee reviewed the meeting notes from their December 12, 2013 meeting.
- IV. Reports

A. Report from Andrews International

1. Annual Report: Steve Seyler reported from a year-end document distributed to the committee members. Seyler indicated that this was the seventh year that Andrews International has patrolled the BIDs. Arrests for 2013 were down 159 over the previous year; felonies were up seven percent. Radio calls were running 500 ahead of the previous year. He indicated that a major objective for 2013 was for BID Patrol to be more visible in the District and to that end, they hired Public Safety Officers (unarmed) to walk a footbeat. He celebrated the productive working relationship established with many agencies, most notably LAPD and the City Attorney/neighborhood prosecutor. The report presented a digest of the various arrest categories for 2013, and it was noted that 59 percent of all arrests were alcohol related. Seyler walked through the report and presented several notable arrests and success stories involved with homeless outreach.

B. Report from LAPD: Captain Zarcone reported that the citywide goal for crime reduction was one percent in 2013, and Hollywood experienced a 10.7 percent decrease in Part 1 crimes, which was significant. It is hard to imagine how statistics could continue to drop, because at some point, what goes down must come up. However, the city has established a crime reduction goal of three percent for 2014. In 2013 there were seven homicides in the Division, compared to six in 2012. One of the major initiatives in 2014 will be to continue to address theft crimes.

He reported that on New Year's Eve, there were 51 arrests. He also reported that the HED patrol detail was established at 60 officers at mid-year 2013, and that number will not change. Another positive development is that a branch of the department's Mental Evaluation Unit (MEU) is now located at Hollywood Division, which will make it easier for officers to address individuals who suffer from mental illness.

C. Report from LA Sheriff's Department: Lt. Sergio Aloma reported that Part 1 crimes on the Red Line for 2013 were up slightly from the previous year, from 211 to 245. In the Hollywood corridor, he

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reported on Part 1 crimes per station: Western = 8, Vine = 15 and Highland = 22. Most of the crimes occurred between 1 p.m. and 9 p.m. In June, the “honor system” ended on the Red Line. The turnstiles were locked. As a result, ridership was down but revenues were up. He also described the way in which enforcement is achieved, and the extensive video surveillance system in place that is monitored at the Rail Operations Center (ROC) in Lynwood.

D. Report from Neighborhood Prosecutor: Andre Quintero reported on a recent meeting held with City Attorney Mike Feuer in which the announcement was made that the city will be hiring more neighborhood prosecutors and more attorneys to work on nuisance abatement cases. He also described the intention of the neighborhood prosecutors to focus upon problem solving. Currently there are 18 stay away orders in Hollywood.

E. Councilmember O’Farrell’s Office: Steven Whiddon expressed gratitude, on behalf of Councilmember O’Farrell, for the work of all partners here in Hollywood to keep this community safe. He provided an update on the commercial solicitation ordinance and said that tour companies will be able to hand out flyers but cannot sell tours on the public right of

V. New Business

A. Priorities for New Year: Charlie Colletta encouraged committee members and partner agencies to forward to Kerry Morrison any ideas for potential priorities for 2014 that the group could collectively collaborate on. One idea that was discussed involved setting up a Task Force to address the problems resulting from public inebriation here in the BID. Steve Seyler has collected a list of every establishment that sells alcohol, and it was pointed out that the main problems emanated from sales of single beers or cheap half-pints of vodka. He is also working on a list of the recurring offenders that are picked up for alcohol offenses. It was pointed out by LAPD that one reason why Hollywood is such a mecca for these problems is because tourists are more often likely to give to panhandlers. Participating on this task force will a representative from LAPD, the neighborhood prosecutor, BID Patrol, staff, and selected committee members.

B. 8 a.m. closing request: Morrison asked the committee’s guidance on how to respond to a request from a nightclub asking for a one-time exception to stay open to 8 a.m. This issue came up a few days before New Year’s Eve, and the council office sought input from the BID on this request. The concern was raised that this would tax LAPD resources not scheduled to stay out that long, and also would set a precedent, so that other clubs may ask for similar permission in the future. This item will be placed on the BID board agenda next week, and the consensus of the committee was to defer to LAPD’s lead on these requests.

VI. Old Business

A. LAPD Camera System

1. System Upgrade: Joe Mariani reported that the first \$50,000 installment had been made on the camera system upgrade. Two cameras near Hollywood and Highland will be updated in time for the Academy Awards. The remaining cameras will be upgraded by the end of March. Morrison reported that several property owners had inquired as to whether it was possible for them to add to the system by purchasing a camera to donate to the city. This seems feasible, and staff will work on a plan as to how that might be accomplished.

B. Kerr Complaint: Morrison reported that the HPOA had been removed from the complaint, and that Andrews is handling this issue now.

VII. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 13.

VIII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Hollywood Entertainment District Committee Chair Charlie Colletta.